Low Profile Groundline Workshops September 2005 8am-5pm

Draft Agenda September 6, 2005

Schedule:	
8:00-8:30	Welcome and Introductions
8:30-9:00	Discuss regional large whale (right, humpback and fin) ecology What is known about large whales in the area? - What is the seasonal and spatial distribution? - What is known about large whale habitat? - How are large whales utilizing the water column when foraging, diving, etc.? - If foraging, what kind of prey species are being targeted?
9:00-9:30	Discuss regional fishing issues What are the regional issues regarding lowering the profile of the groundline? - What type of fisheries occur and where? - What type of bottom is being fished?
9:30-10:00	 Discuss regional habitat, oceanography and/or prey What does the local habitat look like? Where are coral, rock and wreck areas? What is the local prey? What is know about their habitat and how they utilize the water column? What are the local oceanographic conditions? How is prey influenced by oceanographic conditions?
10:00-10:15	Break
10:15-12:00	Discuss potential areas where low profile groundline should be considered Given what we know, where could low profile groundlines be operationally feasible and enforceable taking whale behavior into consideration? - Establish criteria to identify areas - Research plan to identify areas
12:00-1:00	Lunch (working lunch an option)
1:00-2:00	Continue discussion of potential areas where low profile groundline should be considered

2:00-3:00	Discuss maximum height above ocean bottom for low profile groundline What is a goal proxy height? - Discuss proxy height
3:00-4:00	Discuss technologies to lower profile of groundline What tools do you know of? What tools will we need in the future? - Identify techniques
	- Develop research plan (if deemed necessary)
4:00-4:30	Discuss gear marking in potential low profile groundline areas What is operationally feasible and enforceable? - Identify techniques - Develop research plan (if deemed necessary)
4:30-5:00	[If time permits] Discuss ideas for contingency plan if entanglement occurs in low profile line - Identify management options
5:00	Adjourn